

DOCKET NO: 245150US3CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASANORI SAITOH, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. CONT APPLN. :  
(Based on Application No: 09/962,580)  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.